(c) No decision has so far been taken in this regard.

Cent per cent FDI in higher education

†35. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating approving cent per cent foreign direct investment in the field of higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all laws including reservation would be applicable on the said institutions which are applicable on domestic institutions;

(d) whether Government would reconsider the role of University Grants Commission in the field of higher education; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) There is no separate sectoral policy notified for the education sector. By virtue of Press Note 2 (2000 Series) dated the 11th February, 2000 of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, foreign direct investment is already allowed on automatic route in the Education Sector.

(c) to (e) A legislative proposal for the regulation of entry and operations, maintenance of quality and prevention of commercialization of education by foreign educational institutes in higher education is currently under consideration of the Government.

India in the UNESCO

36. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Global Monitoring Report published by UNESCO for 2006 has observed that India has improved its Education Development Index ranking;

†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*

(b) whether this report also points out that the country is likely to achieve gender parity in elementary education by 2007; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir. The UNESCO in its Education for All Global Monitoring Report, 2007 has taken note of over all improvement in the education situation in India by giving an increased Education for All Development Index (EDI) of 0.789, which reflects 6.5% increase in value between 2003 and 2004.

(b) and (c) UNESCO in the said report has noted that in India, gender parity was achieved in pre-primary education in 2004, with Gender Parity Index (GPI) of 1.00 in 2004, up from 0.89 in 1991.

Ragging of fresh students

37. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether ragging of fresh students in the campuses and hostels of institutes of higher education is going on unabated with serious consequences, even fatal;

(b) if so, the details of such instances reported during the last three years and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether a Committee was set up to look into such matters and suggest ways and means of stopping such menace;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(f) if so, the details and its recommendations proposed, given effect to and if not by when the report is expected and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) While no centralized data is maintained about incidents of ragging in the institutions of higher education, certain instances of ragging have been